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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES ON ITS THIRD SESSION, HELD IN RECIFE FROM 15 TO 26 NOVEMBER 1999

PART ONE: PROCEEDINGS

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I. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

A. Opening of the session

1. On 15 November 1999, H.E. Mr. Marco Antonio de Oliveira Maciel, Acting President of Brazil, welcomed participants of the Conference of the Parties to Brazil and made a statement.

2. Welcoming addresses were also made by H.E. Mr. Jarbas de Andrade Vasconcelos, Governor of the State of Pernambuco and H.E. Mr. José Sarney Filho, Minister of State for the Environment of Brazil.

3. Statements were made by H.E. Mr. Theo-Ben Gurirab, President of the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations; the Executive Secretary of the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification; H.E. Mr. Roberto Magalhães, Mayor of Recife; and H.E. Ms. Jacilda Urquiza, Mayor of Olinda (see annex I).

4. Summaries of the statements made during the welcoming ceremony are to be found in annex I.

5. The third session of the Conference of the Parties, convened pursuant to article 22 of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, was opened in Recife, Brazil, on 15 November 1999, by the Executive Secretary of the secretariat of the Convention to Combat Desertification. Following the formal opening, H.E. Mr. Souty Touré, Minister of the Environment and Protection of Nature of Senegal and President of the second session of the Conference of the Parties, made a statement.

B. Election of the President
(Agenda item 1)

6. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 15 November, the Conference elected H.E. Mr. José Sarney Filho, Minister of State for the Environment of the Republic of Brazil, President of its third session by acclamation.

7. At the same meeting, the President made a statement.

C. Attendance

8. The session was attended by representatives of 119 Parties to the Convention. Observers from seven States not parties to the Convention, representatives of United Nations offices, organizations of the United Nations system and specialized agencies also attended.

D. Opening and general statements

9. At the 1st plenary, meeting the Executive Secretary of the secretariat of the Convention to Combat Desertification made a statement.

10. At the same meeting, H.E. Mr. Souty Touré, Minister for the Environment and Protection of Nature of Senegal, made a statement.

11. At the 2nd plenary meeting, the Executive Secretary of the secretariat of the Convention to Combat Desertification made a statement. Statements were also made by the representatives of Benin (on behalf of the African Group), Colombia, Finland (on behalf of the European Union) Guyana (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Lebanon, Lesotho and the Republic of Korea.

12. At the same meeting, the Secretary-General of the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar Convention) made a statement. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following intergovernmental organizations: League of Arab States, Arab Organization for Agricultural Development and Institut de l'Energie et de l'Environnement de la Francophonie. The Assistant Administrator and Director of the Bureau for Development Policy of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the representatives of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) also made statements.

13. At the same meeting, the representative of the Fundação Groupo Esquel do Brazil made a statement on behalf of the community of non-governmental organizations.

14. At the 3rd plenary meeting, statements were made by the President of the Conference of the Parties and the Executive Secretary of the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following Parties: Argentina, Armenia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Egypt, Finland (on behalf of the European Union), Iceland, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Senegal, Syrian Arabic Republic, and Uzbekistan, and for the observer by the representative of Australia. Further statements were made by the representatives of the following non-governmental organizations: Association de Réflexion, d'Échanges et d'Action pour l'Environnement et le Développement, African American Islamic Institute, Inc. and the Secretariat Permanent des Organisations Non-Gouvernementales. The Executive Secretary of the secretariat of the Convention made a concluding statement.

15. Summaries of the opening and general statements referred to in paragraphs 9-14 are to be found in annex II.

II. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. Adoption of the agenda
(Agenda item 3)

16. At the 1st plenary meeting, the Conference adopted its agenda as contained in ICCD/COP(3)/1 and Corr.1.

B. Election of officers other than the President
(Agenda item 2)

17. The Conference heard statements by the chairmen of the regional groups, who nominated candidates for the posts of Vice-President of the Conference and Chairperson of the Committee on Science and Technology.

18. The Conference then elected Mr. Moses D. Munemo (Zimbabwe) as Chairperson of the Committee on Science and Technology, by acclamation.

19. The Conference elected by acclamation the following officers to serve as vice-presidents on the Bureau for the third session, in addition to the President and Chairperson of the Committee on Science and Technology:

Mr. Jafarov Ogtay (Azerbaijan)
Mr. Sange de Silva (Canada)
Mr. Pascal Yoadimnadji (Chad)
Mrs. Maria Antónia Masana (Peru)
Mr. Lazea Gheorghe (Romania)
Mr. Ali Bin Saad Altokhais (Saudi Arabia)
Mr. Abdul-Hamid Al-Monajed (Syrian Arab Republic)
Mr. Koffi Santy Sany Adade (Togo)

Vice-President-cum-Rapporteur: Mr. Victor Louro (Portugal)

C. Organization of work
(Agenda item 3)

20. At its 1st plenary meeting, following a statement by the representative of Canada, the Conference approved the proposed organization of work for the session.

D. Establishment of the Committee of the Whole
(Agenda item 3)

21. At its 1st plenary meeting, the Conference decided to establish a committee of the whole to consider outstanding issues for adoption by the Conference.

22. At the same meeting, upon the proposal of the President, the Conference elected John Ashe (Antigua and Barbuda) Chairman of the Committee of the Whole. He will also be an ex-officio member of the Bureau.

E. Committee on Science and Technology

23. The Committee on Science and Technology was convened under the chairmanship of Mr. Moses D. Munemo (Zimbabwe). The Committee held seven meetings, from 16 to 19 November 1999.

24. At its 1st meeting, on 16 November, the Committee elected by acclamation Mr. Olanrewaju B. Smith (Canada) as Vice-chairman and Mr. Carlos Valarezo Mano-Salvas (Ecuador) as Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur.

25. At its 4th meeting, on 17 November, the Committee elected Mr. Reza Hosseinpour Tavani (Islamic Republic of Iran) as Vice-Chairman.

26. The Committee on Science and Technology submitted a number of recommendations to the Conference of the Parties, which took action on them at its 11th and 12th meetings on 25 and 26 November (see paragraphs 39, 40 and 41).

F. Attendance

27. The third session of the Conference of the Parties was attended by representatives of the following 119 Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification:

Algeria
Angola
Antigua and Barbuda
Argentina
Armenia
Austria
Azerbaijan
Belgium
Benin
Botswana
Brazil
Burkina Faso
Burundi
Cambodia
Canada
Cape Verde
Central African Republic
Chad
Chile
China
Colombia
Comoros
Congo
Cuba
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Denmark
Djibouti
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
Egypt
El Salvador
Eritrea
Ethiopia
European Community
Finland
France
Gambia
Georgia
Germany
Ghana
Greece
Guatemala
Guinea
Guinea-Bissau
Guyana
Haiti
Honduras
Iceland
India
Indonesia
Iran (Islamic Republic of)

Ireland
Israel
Italy
Jamaica
Japan
Jordan
Kazakhstan
Kenya
Kuwait
Kyrgyzstan
Lao People's Democratic Republic
Lebanon
Lesotho
Liberia
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Madagascar
Malawi
Mali
Mauritania
Mexico
Mongolia
Morocco
Mozambique
Myanmar
Namibia
Nepal
Netherlands
Niger
Nigeria
Niue
Norway
Oman
Pakistan
Palau
Panama
Paraguay
Peru
Portugal
Republic of Korea
Republic of Moldova
Romania
Rwanda
Saint Lucia
Sao Tome and Principe
Saudi Arabia
Senegal
South Africa
Spain
Sudan
Swaziland
Sweden
Switzerland
Syrian Arab Republic
Tajikistan
Togo
Tunisia
Turkey
Turkmenistan
Uganda
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
United Republic of Tanzania
Uruguay
Uzbekistan
Venezuela
Viet Nam
Yemen
Zambia
Zimbabwe

28. The session was also attended by observers from the following seven States not Parties to the Convention:

Albania
Australia
Holy See
Poland
Russian Federation
Thailand
United States of America

29. The following United Nations organizations, offices and specialized agencies were represented:

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
Global Environment Facility (GEF)
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
United Nations Compensation Commission (UNCC)
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
United Nations Volunteers (UNV)
World Bank
World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

G. Admission of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations
(Agenda item 5)

30. At its 1st plenary meeting, the Conference decided to accord observer status to the intergovernmental organizations listed in ICCD/COP(3)/15 (annex I) and ICCD/COP(3)/15/Add.2 (annex I).

31. At its 1st plenary meeting, the Conference also decided to accredit the non-governmental organizations listed in ICCD/COP(3)/15 (annex II), ICCD/COP(3)/15/Add.1 (annex) and ICCD/COP(3)/15/Add.2 (annex II).

H. Documentation

32. The documents submitted for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its third session are listed in annex VII.

III. SPECIAL SEGMENT ON CONVENTION IMPLEMENTATION
(Agenda item 3)

33. A list of speakers at the special segment on the implementation of the Convention is to be found in annex III.

34. The President's summary regarding the special segment is to be found in annex IV.

IV. DECISIONS AND RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

A. Decisions taken directly in the plenary

35. At its 12th plenary meeting, on 26 November, the Conference took the following decisions:

1/COP.3	Headquarters Agreement with the Government of Germany
3/COP.3	Programme and budget for the biennium 2000-2001
5/COP.3	Consideration of reports on implementation of the Convention
6/COP.3	Procedure for the review of the implementation of the Convention
9/COP.3	Global Mechanism: first review of policies, operational modalities and activities
10/COP.3	Memorandum of Understanding between the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the International Fund for Agricultural Development regarding the modalities and administrative operations of the Global Mechanism
18/COP.3	Enhancement of the participation of non-governmental organizations in the work of the Conference of the Parties
19/COP.3	Consideration of rule 47 of the rules of procedure
20/COP.3	Resolution of questions of implementation, arbitration and conciliation procedures
22/COP.3	Date and venue of the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties

21/COP.3 Report on the Round Table of Parliamentarians. The Declaration referred to in the decision is attached as annex V to this report.

B. Decision taken on the recommendation of the President of the Conference of the Parties

36. At its 12th meeting, the Conference took the following decision on the recommendation of the President of the Conference of the Parties:

6/COP.3 Recife Initiative: towards enhancing the implementation of the Convention.

C. Decision taken on the recommendation of the Bureau

37. At its 12th meeting, the Conference took the following decision on the recommendation of the Bureau:

23/COP.3 Credentials of representatives of Parties to the third session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (ICCD/COP(3)/19).

D. Decisions taken on the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole

38. At its 12th meeting, the Conference took the following decisions on the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole:

2/COP.3 Medium-Term Strategy of the secretariat

4/COP.3 Programme of work for the Conference of the Parties

7/COP.3 Additional regional implementation annex to the Convention for Central and Eastern Europe

17/COP.3 Collaboration with other conventions and international bodies.

E. Decisions taken on the recommendation of the Committee on Science and Technology

39. At its 11th meeting, on 25 November, the Conference took the following decisions on the recommendation of the Committee on Science and Technology:

11/COP.3 Benchmarks and indicators

12/COP.3 Traditional knowledge

13/COP.3 Survey and evaluation of existing, networks, institutions, agencies and bodies

14/COP.3 Early warning systems

15/COP.3 Roster of independent experts

16/COP.3 Programme of work of the Committee on Science and Technology.

40. In accordance with decision 12/COP.3, on the recommendation of the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology, the Conference decided at its 12th meeting, to appoint the following 10 experts to comprise an ad hoc group on traditional knowledge:

Mr. Mohammad Jafari
Dr. Falah Abounuksta
Mr. Amadou Maiga
Mr. Etumesaku Diunganumbo
Mr. Ashot Vardevanian
Mr. Dumitru Mihail
Mrs. Corinne Wacker
Dr. Pietro Laureano
Mr. Juan Torres Guevara
Mrs. Maria Urquiza

41. In accordance with decision 14/COP.3, on the recommendation of the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology, the Conference decided at its 12th meeting, to appoint the following 10 experts to comprise an ad hoc group on early warning systems:

Dr. Kazuhiko Takeuchi
Mr. Zeng Gen Li
Mr. Richard S. Muyungi
Mr. Abdellah Ghebalou
Dr. Valentin Sofroni
Mr. Giorgi Gotsiridze
Dr. Anneke Trux
Dr. Ali Umran Komescu
Mr. Octavio Perez Pardo
Mr. Patricio Aceituno

F. Programme and budget: Report on the status of the trust funds in 1999

(Agenda item 7(c))

42. At its 3rd meeting, on 16 November, the Committee of the Whole took note of the report of the secretariat on the status of the trust funds in 1999.

G. Resolution

43. At its 12th meeting, on 26 November, the Conference unanimously adopted the following resolution:

Resolution 1/COP.3 Expression of gratitude to the Government and people of Brazil.

V. CONCLUSION OF THE SESSION

A. Adoption of the report on credentials

44. At its 12th plenary meeting, the Conference, having considered the report on credentials of the Bureau of the third session of the Conference (ICCD/COP(3)/19) and the recommendation contained therein, approved the report on credentials.

B. Date and venue of the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties

45. At its 12th plenary meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopted decision 22/COP.3 on the date and venue of the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties, the text of which is contained in Part Two, section I, of this report.

C. Adoption of the report of the Conference of the Parties on its third session

46. At its 12th plenary meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft report on its third session (ICCD/COP(2)/L.9), as orally amended by the Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur. The Conference of the Parties authorized the Rapporteur, with the assistance of the secretariat, to complete the report, as appropriate.

D. Closure of the session

47. Statements made at the closing ceremony are summarized in annex VI.

Annex I

SUMMARIES OF STATEMENTS MADE AT THE WELCOMING CEREMONY

1. At the welcoming ceremony of the COP 3 on 15 November 1999, Mr. Hama Arba Diallo, Executive Secretary of the CCD secretariat, thanked Brazil for hosting the COP 3 and for playing a leading role in the combat against desertification as well as in the process towards sustainable development.

2. He recalled that the Convention was not only about managing natural resources, but is also a multilateral instrument to reduce poverty and foster sustainable development. The Convention did not provide solutions to the many issues in the development process, but offered new opportunities to create improved living conditions for people in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas. He also underlined the need for partnership agreements to be developed through consultative processes and participatory initiatives within National Action Programmes, and stressed the importance of reviewing reports on the implementation of the Convention, especially in Africa.

3. At the first plenary meeting, on 16 November, Mr. Diallo recalled the 159 instruments of ratification received to date and illustrated the main activities undertaken in the affected regions. He noted that many countries had drawn up National, Regional and Subregional Action Programmes and underscored the implementation, monitoring and assessment, as well as the promotion of a bottom-up approach. He stressed the need for strengthening partnership to support the implementation of the Convention at all levels.

4. Mr. Theo-Ben Gurirab, President of the General Assembly of the United Nations at its fifty-fourth session, highlighted the proactive role of African countries in implementing the Convention and noted the high number of submissions of national progress reports. He called on other affected countries to emulate Africa's initiative and gain from the lessons of Africa's experience. As Foreign Minister of Namibia, Mr. Gurirab noted that the Convention to Combat Desertification could greatly contribute to the efforts to achieve sustainable development in countries that were severely affected by drought and desertification. He stressed that the Convention's implementation must be linked to adequate funding and technology transfer.

5. H.E. Mr. Marco Antonio de Oliveira Maciel, Acting President of Brazil, highlighted Brazil's commitment to the environment and promotion of sustainable development. He called for the timely and efficient implementation of the Convention's objectives, taking into consideration the serious economic and social consequences of desertification. He stressed the need for technology transfer and the allocation of financial resources. He appealed to nations that had not ratified the Convention, particularly wealthier ones, to do so. He concluded the opening ceremony by launching a new Brazilian commemorative stamp.

6. H.E. Mr. José Sarney Filho, Minister of the Environment of Brazil, expressed the hope that the Convention would be an instrument to assist affected regions in the process of combating desertification and enhancing economic development. He stressed the need to ensure that adequate funds be made available.

7. H.E. Mr. Jarbas de Andrade Vasconcelod, Governor of the State of Pernambuco, emphasized the importance of the common struggle against desertification and of efforts to improve the living conditions of the most affected populations.

8. H.E. Mr. Roberto Magalhaes, Mayor of Recife, welcomed participants in what, he said, was a region highly affected by desertification. He recalled

that drought and desertification were often linked to the process of impoverishment. He emphasized the need to have reliable information on desertification and political commitment and guidance in support of the efforts to implement the Convention.

Annex II

SUMMARIES OF OPENING AND GENERAL STATEMENTS

1. At the first plenary meeting, H.E. Mr. Souty Touré, Minister for the Environment and Protection of Nature of Senegal and President of the second session of the Conference of the Parties, reported on the results of the most recent meeting of the Bureau and congratulated Brazil for the organization of COP 3. He noted with appreciation the activities undertaken since COP 2, including the move to and installation of the CCD secretariat in Bonn. He noted the commitment of the implementing bodies of the Convention and said the number of accessions and ratifications confirmed that the process was progressing.

2. H.E. Mr. José Sarney Filho, Minister of the Environment of Brazil, thanked the Conference for electing him President of the session.

3. On behalf of the Group of 77 and China, the representative of Guyana expressed the need for increased coordination and improved partnership. She also encouraged the Global Mechanism to specify and clarify its role, and adopt a more proactive role in identifying partners that would enable it to fulfil its mandate. She called for integrating the regional coordination units in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean into the programme budget. Noting that further implementation of the CCD would depend on the ability of the CST to provide relevant information and advice to the COP, she requested that the CST meet more frequently between sessions, and broadens its scope, including scientific and academic institutions in its work.

4. On behalf of the European Union, the representative of Finland called for fruitful discussion on sustainable development strategies as the main framework for effective action to combat desertification. He stressed the need to work constructively without losing sight of the overriding theme of reviewing CCD implementation and the national reports by Africa. The EU was impressed by the outcome of national reporting by Africa, but voiced concerns over the status of the Convention implementation and the need to clarify further the mandate of the CCD secretariat. He recalled the need for further synergy between the Rio conventions, as well as between the multilateral organizations involved in the area of combating land degradation and drought.

5. On behalf of the African group, the representative of Benin highlighted efforts undertaken by African countries in implementing the CCD and preparing reports for the COP 3. He called for a COP 3 decision to establish a committee to review the implementation of the Convention. He highlighted the need for a medium-term strategy for the secretariat and to translate into action the mandate of the Global Mechanism. He urged Parties to support the CCD secretariat in the same way as they have supported the secretariats of the other Rio conventions.

6. The Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention called the attention on the need to enhance synergy between conventions, including CBD and UNFCCC, and expressed appreciation for the CCD document on the promotion of such collaboration in which it was proposed to launch a tripartite work programme involving CCD and CBD.

7. The representative of the League of Arab States illustrated the activities of the Arab Centre for the Study of Arid Zones and Dry Lands (ACSAD) in addressing the effects of drought and desertification in the region, including monitoring and training programmes.

8. The representative of the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development highlighted the importance of the preparation and implementation of the national action programmes in the countries of the region, as well as of establishing a regional networking system.

9. The representative of the Institut de l'Energie et de l'Environnement de la Francophonie highlighted activities in the French-speaking countries to enhance the implementation of the CCD.

10. The representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) highlighted the organization's full commitment to the timely and effective implementation of the CCD, and the importance of the role of civil society through the whole process. The representative of UNDP congratulated the CCD secretariat on the progress in preparing the Medium-Term Strategy. It also called for the Global Mechanism to develop as a new kind of instrument capable of matching offer and demand for financial resources through new sources and flows of investment.

11. The representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) illustrated the organization's engagement to support the CCD implementation, as desertification was closely linked to the mandate of FAO to alleviate hunger and malnutrition. FAO would support the preparation of National Action Programmes, in particular in African countries, and would also start working soon on the overall assessment on desertification.

12. The representative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) announced the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the Organization and the CCD to collaborate in the areas of science, education and training. Many of the current fields of activity of UNESCO had close links to desertification issues, and combating desertification was a multisectoral task that implied scientific as well as human aspects.

13. On behalf of the community of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) accredited to the COP 3, the representative of Fundação Groupo Esquel do Brazil, highlighted the crucial role of civil society in combating desertification and promoting public awareness of the issue. The NGO community called for new commitment in the form of a Protocol that would set objectives and specific benchmarks for the CCD implementation.

Annex III

SPEAKERS AT THE SPECIAL SEGMENT

Mr. Hama Arba Diallo
Executive Secretary of the secretariat of the Convention to Combat Desertification

H.E. Mr. José Sarney Filho
Minister of State for the Environment of Brazil

Mr. Klaus Toepfer
Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme
(who also delivered a message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations)

Mr. Fawzi Al-Sultan
President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development

Mr. Mohamed El-Ashry
Chief Executive Officer of the Global Environment Facility

Ms. Alison Drayton
Head of the Delegation of Guyana
(on behalf of the States Members of the Group of 77 and China)

H.E. Ms. Kirsti Lintonen
Deputy Minister for Development of Finland
(on behalf of the States Members of the European Union)

H.E. Mr. Mohamed Ould Sid'Ahmed Lekhal
Minister for Rural Development and Environment of Mauritania

The Hon. Harry I. Thomson
Minister of Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs of Malawi

The Hon. Cletus Apul Avoka
Minister for the Environment, Science and Technology of Ghana

H.E. Mr. D. Gulmakhmadov
Deputy Minister for the Protection of the Environment of Tajikistan

Mr. Moctar Niang
(on behalf of the Minister for Environment of Senegal)

The Hon. Francis Nyenze
Minister of the Environment of Kenya

H.E. Mr. Mohamed Ag. Erlaf
Minister for the Environment of Mali

The Hon. E.N. Lowassa
Minister of State, Office of the Vice-President of the United Republic of Tanzania

H.E. Mr. Bongnessan Arsène Ye
Minister of State for the Environment and Water of Burkina Faso

The Hon. B.B. Balayar
Minister of State for Population and the Environment of Nepal

H.E. Mr. Ali Seini Gado
Minister for Hydrology and the Environment of Niger

The Hon. Msathabiso Lepono
Minister for the Environment, Gender and Youth Affairs of Lesotho

H.E. Mr. José Antonio Pinto Monteiro
Minister of Agriculture, Food and the Environment of Cape Verde

H.E. Mr. Li Yucai
Vice-Minister for Forestry of China

H.E. Mr. Anatoliy Ovchinnikov
Deputy Minister and Deputy Chief of the Hydrometeorological Service of Uzbekistan

H.E. Mr. Samvel Baloyan
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Natural Protection of Armenia

Mr. Etienne Kayengeyenge
Director General
Ministry of Land Management and the Environment of Burundi

Mr. U. Venkateswarlu
Member of Parliament of India

The Hon. Asse Acakpo-Severin
Member of Parliament of Benin

Mr. Salah Tahoun
National Focal Point for the Convention of Egypt

Mr. Taleb Bensouda Korachi
Inspector-General for Agriculture
Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Maritime Fisheries of Morocco

H.E. Mr. Lazea Gheorghe
Secretary-General
Ministry of Waters and Forests of Romania

H.E. Mr. Kyaw Tint Swe
Secretary of the National Environment Commission of Myanmar

Mr. Ali Bin Saad Althokais
Director-General of Water Resources Development Department
Ministry of Agriculture and Water of Saudi Arabia

Mr. Mebrahtu Iyassu
Director-General of Land Resources and Crop Production Department
Ministry of Agriculture of Eritrea

Mr. Amanmurad Durdyev
Deputy Director, National Institute of Deserts, Flora and Fauna
Ministry of Environmental Protection of Turkmenistan

Mr. Julio Norberto Pérez Guerrero
Representative of the Ministry of Science, Technology and the Environment of Cuba

Mr. Adyasuren Ts. Borjigdkhan
National Focal Point for the Convention and the Global Environment Facility
Counsellor to the Minister of the Environment of Mongolia

H.E. Mr. Yves Cadet
Minister for the Environment of Haiti

H.E. Mr. Abdul Hamid Al-Munajed
Minister of State for Environment Affairs of the Syrian Arab Republic

H.E. Mr. Vitor Barros
Secretary of State for Rural Development of Portugal

H.E. Mr. Hans-Dietrich Lehmann
Director-General
Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany

H.E. Sr. Alberto Ruiz del Portal
Director General for the Conservation of Nature
Ministry of the Environment of Spain

Mr. Belgacem Henchi
Chef du Cabinet of the Minister of the Environment and Land Management of Tunisia

H.E. Mr. Valerio Calzolaio
Under-Secretary for the Environment of Italy
(Also on behalf of Annex IV countries)

Mr. Athanassios Theodorakis
Deputy Director-General for Development
European Community

H.E. M. Paul Henri Cart
Deputy Director General
Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation

Mr. Pierre Jacquemot
Director for Development and International Cooperation
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France

H.E. Mr. Torben Mailand-Christensen
Ambassador
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark

H.E. Ms. Liv Agnes Kerr
Ambassador of Norway to Brazil

H.E. Mr. Lennarth Hjelmaker
Ambassador of Sweden to Zimbabwe

Mr. Tokuji Ikeda
Consul General of Japan in Recife

Mr. Michael Ellis
Desertification Coordinator
Environment Policy Department, Department for International Development of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Ms. Thelma Awori
Assistant Administrator and Director of the Regional Bureau for Africa
United Nations Development Programme

The Hon. Ime T. Okopido
Minister of State for the Environment of Nigeria

H.E. Mr. Pascal Yoadimnadji
Minister for the Environment and Water of Chad

H.E. Mr. Paino Abreú
Minister for the Environment of the Dominican Republic

H.E. Sr. Jesús Arnaldo Pérez
Minister of the Environment and Natural Resources of Venezuela

H.E. Mr. Koffi Santy Sany Adade
Minister for the Environment and Forests Resources of Togo

H.E. Mr. Michel Mampouya
Minister for Mining and the Environment of the Republic of the Congo

H.E. Mr. Edward D. Singhateh
Secretary of State for Presidential Affairs of the Gambia

H.E. Ms. Rejoice Mabudafhasi
Deputy Minister for Environmental Affairs and Tourism of South Africa

Dr. Michel Jarraud
Deputy Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organization

Ms. Cissé Mariam K. Sidibé
Executive Secretary
Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel

Mr. Okan Ucer
Deputy Under-Secretary
Ministry of the Environment of Turkey

Mr. Adel Choueiry
Director-General
Ministry of Agriculture of Lebanon

Mr. Sange de Silva
Director-General of Policy and Strategic Planning, Africa and Middle East Branch
Canadian International Development Agency

Mr. Cho Hwan-bok
Minister at the Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Canada

Mr. Guido Soto
National Focal Point and Coordinator of the Convention of Chile

Mr. Boguslaw Zakrzewski
Ambassador of Poland to Brazil (Observer)

Mr. Yuriy N. Isakov
Deputy-Director, Department of International Organizations
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation (Observer)

Mr. Peter Tarr
Deputy-Director, Directorate of Environmental Affairs
Ministry of the Environment and Tourism of Namibia

Mr. J.H. Masinja
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources of Zambia

Mr. Uriel Safriel
National Focal Point for the Convention of Israel

Mr. Francisco Mabjaia
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of the Environment of Mozambique

H.E. M. Hocine Meghlaoui
Ambassador of Algeria to Brazil

Ms. Tsedale Waktola
Head of the Environmental Impact Studies and Control Department
Environmental Protection Authority of Ethiopia

Mr. Aboubaker Douale Waiss
Technical Adviser to the Minister of Housing, Urban Affairs
Environment and Land Management of Djibouti

Mr. Carlos Valarezo Manosalvas
Adviser
Ministry of the Environment of Ecuador

Mr. Lourenco Antonio Vaz
Adviser to the Secretary of State for Energy, Natural Resources and the Environment of Guinea-Bissau

Mr. Hudson Gabaitse
National Focal Point for the Convention of Botswana

Mr. Hashim Mohamed El Hassan
National Focal Point, Coordinator for the Convention of the Sudan

Mr. Charles Kazungu
Head of the Monitoring and Evaluation Division
Ministry of Land, Resettlement and Protection of the Environment of Rwanda

Mr. Gunther Sleevwagen
National Focal Point for the Convention of Belgium

H.E. Mr. Massoud Said Abusuwa
Minister of Animal Wealth of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

Mr. Kulov Kubanychbek
National Focal Point for the Convention of Kyrgyzstan

Mr. Alireza Morshedi
National Focal Point for the Convention of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Mr. Moses D. Munemo
Director of Natural Resources
Ministry of Mines, Environment and Tourism of Zimbabwe

Mr. Isaac N. Soaladoab
National Focal Point for the Convention of Palau

Mr. Sergio Diaz
Counsellor, Embassy of Colombia in Brasilia

M. Abdessalem Kallala
Expert, Arab Maghreb Union

Mr. Eugene H. Shannon
Principal Environmentalist
Environment and Sustainable Development Unit of the African Development Bank

Mr. Berhane W. Selasie
Expert on Land Use Management and Desertification
Intergovernmental Authority on Development

Mr. Janos Pasztor
Coordinator, Information and Outreach Programme
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Mr. Olivier Jalbert
Principal Officer
Secretariat for the Convention on Biological Diversity

Mr. Muftah Unis
Secretary-General of the African Organization for Cartography and Remote Sensing

Lev Komlev
Senior Economic Affairs Officer, Office of the Special Coordinator for the Least Developed Countries
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Mr. Shafquat Ezdi Shah
Ministry of the Environment of Pakistan

Mrs. Kuralay Karibayeva
Director of South Regional Department of the National Ecological Centre
Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment of Kazakhstan

Ms. Silvia Alcantara Picchioni
NGO Diaconia, Brazil
(on behalf of the community of non-governmental organizations)

Annex IV

PRESIDENT'S SUMMARY OF STATEMENTS MADE DURING THE SPECIAL SEGMENT

1. During two and a half days, the participants in the high-level segment presented the contributions of their respective countries or organizations towards the effective and timely implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. The discussions were enhanced by the presence of a considerable number of ministers, high government officials, executive heads of UNEP, IFAD and the GEF, as well as representatives of interregional, regional and other organizations.

2. The President of the Conference, H.E. Sarney Filho expressed the hope of the Brazilian Government that the Conference would adopt a Recife Initiative heralding a declaration on enhancing implementation of the Convention.

3. The participants congratulated the Government of Brazil and its people for hosting the Conference and for the excellent facilities and services rendered to hold fruitful meetings. The participants also thanked the secretariat for the valuable efforts made to ensure the timely submission of well prepared documents in all languages as well as for the assistance it had provided to Parties, in particular to those of African countries who had prepared their national reports for this session. They stressed the need for a strong secretariat capable of carrying out its work at the level of the expectations of the affected developing country Parties. Recommendations on strengthening the secretariat to enable it to continue fulfilling its mandate were also formulated.

4. Furthermore, many officials expressed their appreciation for the considerable number and the quality of the reports submitted by African country Parties for review by the Conference of the Parties. Delegates emphasized that national reports should be used to draw lessons and plan effective action in African countries. A number of country Parties proposed the establishment of a committee to review implementation. The need to coordinate partners' efforts and to integrate the CCD into established forums of bilateral and multilateral development cooperation was stressed by several delegates. Delegates said that linkages between the Rio conventions should be encouraged, since their objectives were interrelated. The important role of women and non-governmental organizations was also highlighted.

5. Interventions underlined the fact that the timely implementation of action programmes depended on the ability of the Global Mechanism to act as an intermediate. So far, the Global Mechanism has not lived up to expectations. In that context, some delegates appealed to all Parties to devise an effective financial mechanism to promote actions to combat desertification. Participants also appealed to other donors to help the Global Mechanism to obtain the resources it requires to start operating.

6. The following points were also made by participants:

- They reported on the activities undertaken at national, subregional and regional levels;

- They acknowledged the active role of African countries in the implementation of the Convention;

- They expressed their satisfaction at the quality of the reports submitted to the COP;

- They requested the establishment of an enabling environment for natural resource management, such as trade liberalization and debt relief;

- They appealed for support from the developed countries and financing agencies to enable them to formulate and implement national and subregional action programmes;

- They expressed their support for the programme of work of the secretariat and the medium-term strategy, and urged the Conference to approve them;

- They requested the COP to approve the Programme and Budget for the Biennium 2000-2001;

- They urged the Global Mechanism to mobilize financial resources to assist in the combat against desertification in the most affected developing countries;

- They called on the Global Environment Facility to seek other means to provide more support to the activities to combat land degradation.

7. The Parties also heard Senator Chapman, of the Parliament of Australia, who presented the declaration adopted by the Round Table of Parliamentarians with regard to the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. The Conference took note of the declaration by the Parliamentarians with satisfaction.

Annex V

DECLARATION BY MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENTS

Second Round Table of Members of Parliaments
Recife, 22 and 23 November 1999
Third session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNCCD

The Role of Members of Parliaments in Designing Educational, Scientific and Cultural Policies for the Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

1. We, members of parliaments, meeting in Recife, Brazil, on 22 and 23 November 1999 for the second Round Table at the invitation of the Convention secretariat and the National Congress of Brazil, with the full support of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, in the context of the third session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, declare that:

1. We are deeply alarmed by the impact of land degradation and desertification processes that are occurring, and accelerating, over much of the 30 per cent of the Earth's land surface that is designated by the United Nations as dry or semi-arid. We are conscious that over 70 per cent of this area is used for agriculture or pastoral activities and that approximately 15 per cent of the world's population and 25 per cent of the total land area of the Earth is directly affected by land degradation and desertification processes. We are conscious of the gravity of the situation in different regions of the world as in Africa, a continent where deserts or arid zones constitute two thirds of the total land area and 73 per cent of the arid land is already seriously or moderately degraded; in Asia where approximately 71 per cent of the continent's arid land is severely degraded; in Latin America, where nearly three-quarters of the arid land is moderately or severely degraded; the Mediterranean, where almost two thirds of the arid land is severely degraded, and the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, where from 40 to 80 per cent of the arid land is severely degraded;

2. It is a cause for great concern that losses of productivity implied by desertification processes severely undermine sustainable economic growth, limit food security and exacerbate susceptibility to famine, often accompanied by large-scale movements of displaced people. The failure of marginally productive land to cope with population pressures, together with increasingly variable climates, including recurrent drought, may already have displaced as many as 25 million people worldwide from their land and constituted a source of inter-communal conflict in many parts of the world;

3. We share fully the founding premise of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, according to which, sustainable development cannot be attained unless:

(i) It is clearly oriented towards people, addresses the interests of affected populations and has as its ultimate objective the alleviation of poverty;

(ii) It fully involves affected populations and local communities in the decision-making process, as well as in the implementation of measures to protect the environment, to improve land and water resources management and to overcome the main causes of land degradation and desertification;

4. We reaffirm our belief that desertification, poverty, famine, social and political disturbances, wars, migration and the displacement of populations, which have on many occasions led to further serious degradation of the natural environment, are in many cases interconnected;

5. We take note with concern that the consequences of land degradation and desertification pressures fall hardest on developing countries and that remediation programmes compete for scant financial resources. We urge the international community to seriously consider the ordeal and alienation of heavily indebted least developed countries and urge it to implement appropriate relief measures to be undertaken with the help of the Global Mechanism, particularly with regard to countries affected by serious drought and desertification.

II. In affirming our commitment, as members of parliaments, to contribute fully to the implementation of the Convention, we congratulate those countries that have ratified the Convention and urge those that have not yet ratified it to do so as soon as possible and join the initiative to make the year 2000 the starting point of the decade to combat desertification. Moreover:

6. We support the wide and active participation of all parliaments in ratifying countries, in the implementation of the Convention including, where necessary, the introduction, strengthening and implementation of legislation relating to the fight against desertification and the preservation of ecosystems in countries affected;

7. We attach the highest importance to the strengthening of educational, scientific and cultural policies through effective public awareness campaigns about the causes and negative effects of desertification, as well as to the active participation of civil society, local communities, youth and women in efforts to identify country or region-specific solutions and strategies; we also recognize the need to ensure the raising of awareness on the protection of biodiversity and causes of climate change;

8. We support fully the initiatives of agencies, donor countries and civil society to mobilize financial assistance through the Convention's Global Mechanism, for the implementation of sustainable development strategies in poor countries with fragile ecosystems.

III. In highlighting the fundamental role that education, science and culture play in the challenge to achieve sustainable development, we members of parliament agree:

9. To initiate with this second Round Table a concerted effort to promote concrete action-oriented measures in the area of education, applied research and capacity-building to combat desertification;

10. That such measures could include, for example: awareness raising on production and consumption patterns and their impact on land, water and river basin management, improvement of technical land and water management skills, sustainable use of scarce natural resources, including the use of renewable sources of energy, promotion of specific research on the causes and negative effects of desertification, transfer and adaptation of environmentally sound technologies for better land and natural resource management, effective use of modern and safe biotechnologies to disseminate drought-resistant tree systems, rational and integrated management of river basins, and protection, promotion and utilization of traditional and site-specific technological knowledge and practices.

IV. We agree to establish an effective follow-up mechanism by creating an open-ended high-level forum of members of parliaments engaged in the advancement

of the Convention objectives and for which we seek the sponsorship of the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

The High-Level Forum of Members of Parliaments:

11. Will meet concurrently with each session of the Conference of the Parties to share information on national initiatives and monitor implementation of Round Table decisions in parliaments of countries that are Parties to the Convention;

12. If necessary, undertakes to work for effective national legislation with a view to facilitating the implementation and harmonization of provisions of the Convention;

13. Undertakes to submit to the executive branches a proposal for the inclusion, where necessary, in school curricula of disciplines focusing on the protection of the environment and natural resources, particularly land and water resources, so as to make combating erosion and desertification a priority for our countries, as well as for our regional and subregional organizations;

14. Undertakes to support the formulation by our respective Governments of national action plans or equivalent strategies to combat land degradation, improve water and river-basin management and advance applied agricultural and biotechnology research in countries affected by desertification;

15. Underlines the importance of accompanying these national action plans with secured and innovative financing, where financing programmes are not in existence, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention;

16. Decides to explore ways of enhancing synergies of these national action plans with other national development priorities such as education and science advancement strategies. As a first step, we recommend that an awareness day on the global environmental problem of erosion and desertification be organized or marked symbolically, possibly on an annual basis;

17. Decides to enhance coordination in the implementation of regional action programmes, in particular with respect to the integrated management of river basins, whether these are located within countries or shared by more than one country, keeping full account of relevant physical, biological and socio-economic aspects;

18. Requests the Convention secretariat to compile and synthesize a brief progress report with relevant information regarding Round Table decisions for its attention at the next meeting.

V. We are deeply convinced that parliaments can play an essential role in the global effort to fight causes of desertification by encouraging far-reaching action geared towards:

19. Promoting interregional, regional and subregional cooperation and the improvement of relations between our relevant intergovernmental, non-governmental and community-based organizations;

20. Setting up or continuing, at the local level, measures for sustainable forest management and effective reforestation programmes that involve all stakeholders, in particular civil society representatives, and youth and women's associations, in the rehabilitation of degraded land;

21. Widely disseminating relevant information focusing on the linkages between poverty, lack of access to education, technical and scientific knowledge and land degradation and desertification, which tend to reduce development potential of countries;

22. Adopting or maintaining multi-stakeholder action programmes, including between neighbouring countries experiencing drought and desertification, and involving international organizations, donor agencies, national institutions, elected representatives, non-governmental organizations and the local population directly affected;

23. Incorporating traditional site-specific technical and cultural knowledge and know-how in policy making.

VI. We, members of parliaments, reiterate our urgent appeal:

24. To the international community to address desertification not only as an environmental and/or ecological problem, but also as a serious development problem with severe long-term economic, social, political and environmental consequences, if not mitigated in time;

25. To developed country Parties to the Convention to promote capacity-building activities in affected countries, which may include the funding of public awareness, education and research programmes, as well as the dissemination of "best practices" in the field of land, forest, water and river basin management.

26. To all relevant participants in civil society, such as financial institutions, experts in the fields of finance, commerce, sports, the media and the arts, to support the mobilization of financial resources for the fight against desertification and land degradation, in particular in those developing countries most seriously affected by desertification, erosion and drought;

27. To academic institutions, the scientific community and research centres for their support in the various tasks of implementing the Convention in countries affected, with particular regard to the needs of developing countries;

28. To the Inter-Parliamentary Union to give the widest possible publicity to this declaration and, notably, that it be transmitted to all national parliaments for attention and engagement;

VII. In closing, we further request:

29. The secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, in cooperation with the Inter-Parliamentary Union, to provide technical support to the High-Level Forum of Members of Parliaments in its role of monitoring action carried out by Governments, and to mobilize additional resources for the servicing of the High-Level Forum;

30. The Inter-Parliamentary Union to lend its full support to the High-Level Forum of Members of Parliaments and to assist in the coordination of its work;

31. The secretariats of the Inter-Parliamentary Union and of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification to continue their cooperation and to submit a proposal for the dissemination of information on progress in fighting desertification by the next session of the Conference of the Parties;

32. Both secretariats to organize another round table of the High-Level Forum of Members of Parliaments in conjunction with that session;

33. The secretariats of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the Inter-Parliamentary Union to take follow-up action on the present Round Table decisions and develop strategies in order to achieve universal awareness of the declarations and progress reports of the High-Level Forum of Members of Parliaments.

Annex VI

SUMMARIES OF STATEMENTS MADE AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY

1. On behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean Group, the representative of Peru noted with satisfaction that a country of the region hosted the Conference and said his region looks forward to its sixth regional meeting, which will be hosted in El Salvador.

2. On behalf of the European Union, the representative of Finland highlighted that EU member States are more aware of the need of intensifying efforts to combat desertification. He also noted, however, that such efforts are not yet part of mainstream development strategies as they should be.

3. On behalf of the Valdivia Group, the representative of South Africa noted that the group was established to learn from each other's experiences in combating desertification and mitigating the effects of drought.

4. On behalf of the Asian Group, the representative of Iran recalled the great attention and importance that his region attaches to the Convention. He called on donors to support affected regions with technical, technological and financial resources.

5. On behalf of the Group of 77 and China, the representative of Guyana reminded delegates of the need of increasing efforts to meet the expectations of the billion people affected by drought and desertification and whose welfare is of the greatest concern to the Convention.

6. On behalf of the African Group, the representative of Benin highlighted the fact that Africa was behind the initiative leading to the elaboration, adoption and ratification of the Convention and that the region will continue to ensure political commitment by making the CCD a priority.

7. The representative of Romania noted the Central and East European region's gratitude for the decision regarding the additional regional implementation annex.

8. The Executive Secretary of the UNCCD, Mr. Hama Arba Diallo, congratulated the representatives of all Parties for the necessary compromises they had achieved. He thanked the host country for the organization of the Conference and confirmed the full commitment of the secretariat to accomplish its mandate and continue working with all country Parties to move the process forward.

9. Executive Secretary Diallo read a message from Minister Sarney Filho, President of COP 3, who welcomed the agreement reached by Parties on crucial issues. In particular, he noted the agreement on the Recife Initiative, which he said allows for the adoption of a declaration at COP 4 to strengthen the implementation of the Convention, highlights the need for indicators of the effectiveness of efforts to combat desertification, and helps raise the same interest in desertification as that given to the other Rio conventions. Mr. Sarney Filho welcomed the African country reports, which can be used as a model to countries submitting reports at the next COP.

10. A representative of the NGO community welcomed the two dialogue sessions held during the conference, stating that these reflected the goodwill of all Parties. He hoped this would be reflected in the qualitative and quantitative participation of NGOs at future meetings.

Annex VII

DOCUMENTS BEFORE THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES AT ITS THIRD SESSION

Document symbol	Title or description
ICCD/COP(3)/1 and Corr. 1	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
ICCD/COP(3)/2	Programme and budget for the biennium 2000-2001
ICCD/COP(3)/3 and Add. 1	Programme and budget: review of the situation as regards to the Supplementary Fund, Special Fund and Bonn Fund
ICCD/COP(3)/4	Financial performance of 1999 budget (January-June)
ICCD/COP(3)/5	Review of the implementation of the Convention, including support to regional action programmes
ICCD/COP(3)/5/Add.1	Reports by developed country Parties on measures taken to assist affected African country Parties in the preparation and implementation of action programmes
ICCD/COP(3)/5/Add.2	Reports on implementation of the Convention by affected African country Parties
ICCD/COP(3)/5/Add.3	Information provided by United Nations organizations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations on their support to the preparation and implementation of action programmes in Africa
ICCD/COP(3)/5/Add.4	Assistance provided by the secretariat to developing country Parties in preparation of national reports
ICCD/COP(3)/5/Add.5	Progress made in the formulation and implementation of subregional and regional action programmes in Africa
ICCD/COP(3)/6	Medium-term strategy of the secretariat (revised)
ICCD/COP(3)/7	Procedures for resolution of questions, arbitration and conciliation
ICCD/COP(3)/8	Headquarters agreement with the Government of Germany
ICCD/COP(3)/9	Collaboration with other international bodies and conventions
ICCD/COP(3)/9/Add.1	Relations between the secretariat and the Global Environment Facility
ICCD/COP(3)/10	Revised draft memorandum of understanding between the Conference of the Parties and the International Fund for Agricultural Development

Document symbol	Title or description
ICCD/COP(3)/10/Add.1	Adoption and entry into force of the draft memorandum of understanding between the Conference of the Parties and the International Fund for Agricultural Development
ICCD/COP(3)/11	Report on policies, operational strategy, operational modalities and activities of the Global Mechanism
ICCD/COP(3)/11/Add.1	Report by the Global Mechanism on consultation and collaboration with non-governmental organizations and the private sector
ICCD/COP(3)/12	Report by IFAD on collaboration with non-governmental organizations and other organizations, including the private sector
ICCD/COP(3)/13	Consideration of rule 47 of the rules of procedure
ICCD/COP(3)/14 and Add. 1	Roster of independent experts: note by the secretariat
ICCD/COP(3)/15	List of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations recommended for accreditation as observers
ICCD/COP(3)/16	Draft additional regional implementation annex to the Convention for central and eastern European countries
ICCD/COP(3)/17	Establishment of additional procedures and/or institutional mechanisms to review the implementation of the Convention
ICCD/COP(3)/18	Procedure and institutional mechanism for the resolution of questions that may arise with regard to implementation of the Convention
ICCD/COP(3)/19	Credentials of delegations: report of the Bureau to the COP
ICCD/COP(3)/CST/1	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work of the CST
ICCD/COP(3)/CST/2	Synthesis on important and widely applied traditional knowledge on a subregional and regional basis and on a national scale
ICCD/COP(3)/CST/3	Report by the ad hoc panel on traditional knowledge
ICCD/COP(3)/CST/3/Add.1	Linkage of the work of CCD on traditional knowledge with that of related conventions
ICCD/COP(3)/CST/3/Add.2	Report on traditional knowledge in dryland ecosystems
ICCD/COP(3)/CST/4	Survey and evaluation of existing networks, institutions, agencies and bodies
ICCD/COP(3)/CST/5	Other bodies performing work similar to that envisaged for the CST: potential areas of cooperation between CCD and other bodies

Document symbol	Title or description
ICCD/COP(3)/CST/6	Report on existing experiences of early-warning systems and on specialized institutions acting in this field
ICCD/COP(3)/INF.1	Preliminary information for participants
ICCD/COP(3)/INF.2	Extrabudgetary funds: summary report 1993-1998 (update of document ICCD/COP(2)/Inf.2)
ICCD/COP(3)/INF.3	UNCCD National Reports Help Guide
ICCD/COP(3)/INF.4	Status of ratification of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
ICCD/COP(3)/INF.5	UNCCD directory of focal points
ICCD/COP(3)/INF.6	List of participants
ICCD/COP(3)/L.1	Roster of independent experts
ICCD/COP(3)/L.2	Benchmarks and indicators
ICCD/COP(3)/L.3	Traditional knowledge
ICCD/COP(3)/L.4	Resolution of question of implementation; arbitration and conciliation procedures
ICCD/COP(3)/L.5	Agreement concerning the headquarters of the Convention secretariat
ICCD/COP(3)/L.6	Early warning systems
ICCD/COP(3)/L.7	Survey and evaluation of existing networks, institutions, agencies and bodies
ICCD/COP(3)/L.8	Programme of work of the Committee on Science and Technology
ICCD/COP(3)/L.9	Draft report of the Conference of the Parties at its third session
ICCD/COP(3)/L.10	Medium-term strategy of the secretariat
ICCD/COP(3)/L.11	Programme of work for the Conference of the Parties
ICCD/COP(3)/L.12	First review of policies, operational modalities and activities of the Global Mechanism
ICCD/COP(3)/L.13	Consideration of reports on implementation of the Convention
ICCD/COP(3)/L.14	Report on the Round Table of Parliamentarians
ICCD/COP(3)/L.15	Date and venue of the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties
ICCD/COP(3)/L.16	Collaboration with other conventions and international bodies

Document symbol	Title or description
ICCD/COP(3)/L.17	Memorandum of understanding between the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the International Fund for Agricultural Development regarding the modalities and administrative operations of the Global Mechanism
ICCD/COP(3)/L.18	Programme and budget for the biennium 2000-2001
ICCD/COP(3)/L.18/Add.1	Programme and budget for the biennium 2000-2001 - Annex
ICCD/COP(3)/L.19	Additional regional implementation annex to the Convention for Central and Eastern Europe
ICCD/COP(3)/L.20	Consideration of rule 47 of the rules of procedure
ICCD/COP(3)/L.21	Expression of gratitude to the Government and the people of Brazil
ICCD/COP(3)/L.22	The Recife initiative: towards enhancing the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
ICCD/COP(3)/L.23	Review of the implementation of the Convention
ICCD/COP(3)/L.24	Enhancement of the participation on non-governmental organizations in the work of the Conference of the Parties

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